

REMARKS

Pending Claims

Claims 1 and 50-74 are pending. Claims 1 and 50-55 are amended. Claims 62-74 are withdrawn pending rejoinder. Claims 60-61 are withdrawn as restricted subject matter that may be filed in a divisional application.

Support for the claim amendments can be found throughout the specification and sequence listing. For example, numerical ranges are supported at least at page 11 of the published specification US2005/0204437 in paragraphs [0157] and [0161].

Examiner's Telephonic Interview

Applicants thank Examiner Ibrahim for the courtesy extended during discussion of the claims by telephone. The claims have been amended in keeping with those discussions.

Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has required restriction of new claims 61-62 drawn to methods for selecting null-LOX mutants. Applicants hereby elect the invention embodied in claims 1 and 50-59, withdrawing claims 61 and 62 as directed to a non-elected invention.

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledgment of rejoinder of claims 63-74 on allowance of the elected claims, as stated on page 3 of the Final Office Action.

Objections to the Claims

The Examiner has objected to the dependency of claim 50 from claim 1. Claim 50 has been amended to be independent, as suggested by the Examiner.

Indefiniteness Rejection

Claims 53-55 are rejected as indefinite in the description of the nucleic acid sequences encoding the claimed mutated LOX-1 protein. The claims have been amended as suggested by the Examiner to clarify the nucleic acid and amino acid sequences of the claimed mutant LOX-1.

Conclusion

In view of the above Amendments and Remarks, Applicants respectfully submit the claims are in condition for allowance. Allowance of Claims 1, 50-59, and 62-74 is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number for clarification of any of the Amendments or Remarks, or to otherwise speed allowance of this application...

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Date: 27 February 2008

/Denise M. Kettelberger/
Denise M. Kettelberger, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 33,924

